

HOUSE RESOLUTION 134
By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Kevin Cable upon being named as one of Tennessee's top two youth volunteers and for laudable service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is highly appropriate and fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those sterling individuals who, through their hard work, expertise, and dedication, have pieced together the enduring fabrics that comprise the grand tapestry of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, through their personal efforts, these exemplary citizens have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Kevin Cable, a voice of integrity in the greater Mountain City community; and

WHEREAS, nominated by Johnson County Middle School, this 13-year-old seventh grader was selected as one of Tennessee's top two youth volunteers; and

WHEREAS, despite his young age, Kevin demonstrated unparalleled initiative and poise when he organized a letter-writing campaign to governors across the country to encourage them to proclaim a special Weapon Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 1998, Kevin Cable requested that Governor Don Sundquist encourage all parents in the state to count and lock up their firearms. As a result of his tenacious efforts, June 15 was declared Weapons Awareness Day in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, to spread his important message across the country, Kevin sent letters to every state governor asking them to follow Tennessee's lead. Our neighboring state of South Carolina answered Kevin's request and proclaimed May 23-28 as Youth Stop the Violence Week. Kevin continues to urge other states to make weapons control a priority; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Cable epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded young man whose benevolent nature knows no bounds, Kevin has also personally sewn and distributed more than 300 "toboggans" for needy children in his area to wear on their heads during cold weather; and

WHEREAS, a truly humble public servant, Kevin dismisses compliments on his efforts stating, "Young people need to stop turning our heads when we see kids who are cold, or just laughing when our friends talk about playing with their parents' gun"; and

WHEREAS, as a state honoree, Kevin will be awarded \$1000, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense-paid trip in May to Washington, D.C., where he will join the top two honorees – one middle level and one high school youth – from each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for several days of national recognition events in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards; and

WHEREAS, on May 8 of this year, five middle level and five high school students will be named as America's top ten youth volunteers of the year by a prestigious national selection committee; and

WHEREAS, these national honorees will receive an additional \$5000, a gold medallion, and a crystal trophy. The selection committee will be co-chaired by U.S. Senators Byron Dorgan of North Dakota and Susan Collins of Maine and will consist of actor Richard Dreyfuss,

the president and CEO of the Points of Light Foundation, the National Executive Director of the Girl Scouts of the USA, and two 1999 Prudential Spirit of the Community national honorees; and

WHEREAS, the awards are part of a broad initiative created by Prudential to encourage young people to become involved in community service; and

WHEREAS, the five-year-old national program is sponsored by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals; more than 20,000 high school students were considered in this year's program; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Cable is known by many as someone who gives unreservedly of himself for the betterment of those around him; and

WHEREAS, it is rare when a person of Kevin's stature walks among us, and this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Kevin for his dedication to this state and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Kevin Cable for his superlative service to the state of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.